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SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG



SONIC THE HEDGEHOG | 286

PANIC IN THE SKY - PART 3 OF 4

Welcome to Sonic's comic book adventures—a world unique & beyond what you know from the SEGA games! Where Sonic and his friends work to save the world from the forces of evil!



**CHARACTER
= SELECT =**

SONIC™

THE HEDGEHOG

THE STORY SO FAR...



**SONIC
THE HEDGEHOG**
SUPER-FAST HERO



CHIP/LIGHT GAIA
KEY TO SAVING THE WORLD



**THE FREEDOM
FIGHTERS**
WORLD HEROES



DR. EGGMAN
SUPER-SMART
VILLAIN

THE BATTLE BEGINS

The Shattered World Crisis has reached its tipping point!

Dr. Eggman has kidnapped Chip and used his powers as the Light Gaia to summon the Gaia Colossus. The reactors in Eggman Land have pulled in almost all of the Dark Gaia energy from around the world. And now the Death Egg is en route to be powered by that evil energy, and will become unstoppable!



Sonic and the Freedom Fighters have launched a three-prong counter-offensive! Rotor pilots the damaged Sky Patrol in an attempt to delay the Death Egg. Sally leads the team into Eggman Land against countless Dark

Gaia-powered badniks to stop the central reactor.

And Sonic faces off against Dr. Eggman in his most fearsome robot yet...



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ON THE GAIA
COLOSSUS...

BRACKA-

RAKKA
RAKKA
RAKKA

IN THE STREETS
OF EGGMAN LAND...

KA-SHUNK!

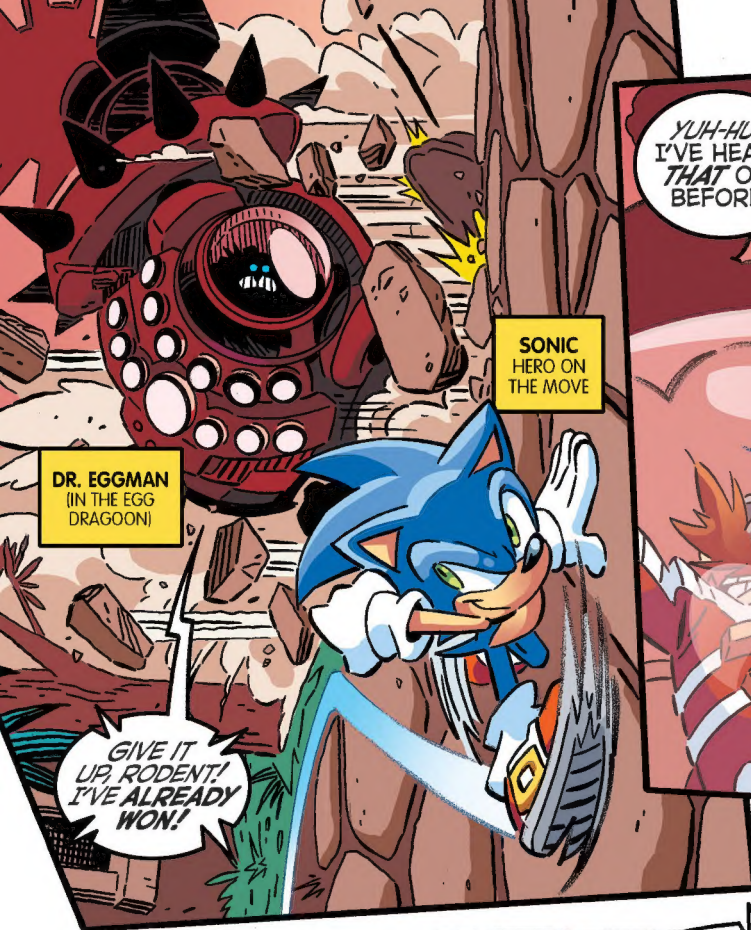
SCHING!

IN THE SKIES
ABOVE THEM ALL...

PANIC IN THE SKY

PART THREE: COLOSSAL CRASH

WRITER: IAN FLYNN • PENCILS: DIANA SKELLY (PGS 1-10), ADAM BRYCE THOMAS (PGS 11-20)
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SPECIAL THANKS TO SANDRA JO AND MAI KIYOTAKI AT SEGA LICENSING



SONIC
HERO ON
THE MOVE

DR. EGGMAN
(IN THE EGG
DRAGON)

GIVE IT
UP, RODENT!
I'VE ALREADY
WON!



YUH-HUH,
I'VE HEARD
THAT ONE
BEFORE!

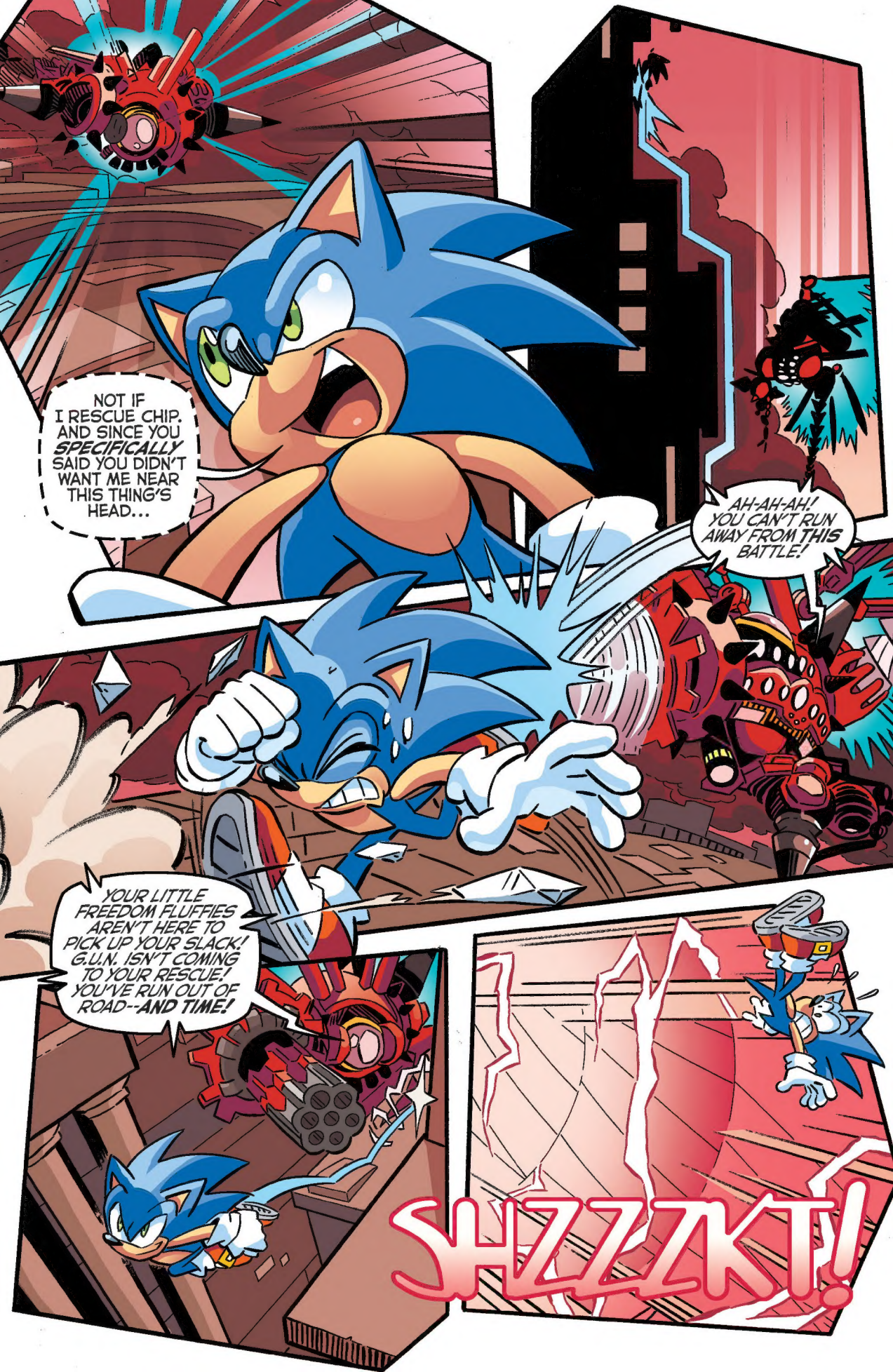
BONK!



I COMMAND THE
DARK GAIA ENERGY!
I CONTROL THE
GAIA COLOSSUS!
THE FATE OF THIS
WORLD IS ENTIRELY
UP TO ME!



MY EGG ARMY WILL
KEEP EACH CHUNK OF
THE WORLD WEAK AND
UNDER MY CONTROL! AND
IF ANYONE WANTS A
CHANCE AT ME BEING
MERCIFUL AND RESTOR-
ING THE PLANET, THEY'LL
HAVE TO GIVE ME
EVERYTHING I WANT!

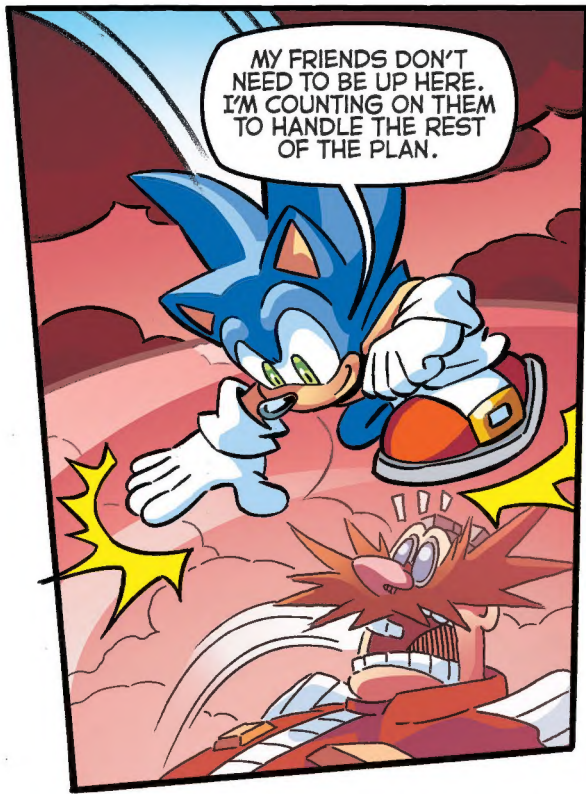


NOT IF I RESCUE CHIP. AND SINCE YOU SPECIFICALLY SAID YOU DIDN'T WANT ME NEAR THIS THING'S HEAD...

AH-AH-AH! YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY FROM THIS BATTLE!

YOUR LITTLE FREEDOM FLUFFIES AREN'T HERE TO PICK UP YOUR SLACK! G.U.N. ISN'T COMING TO YOUR RESCUE! YOU'VE RUN OUT OF ROAD--AND TIME!

SHZZZKT!



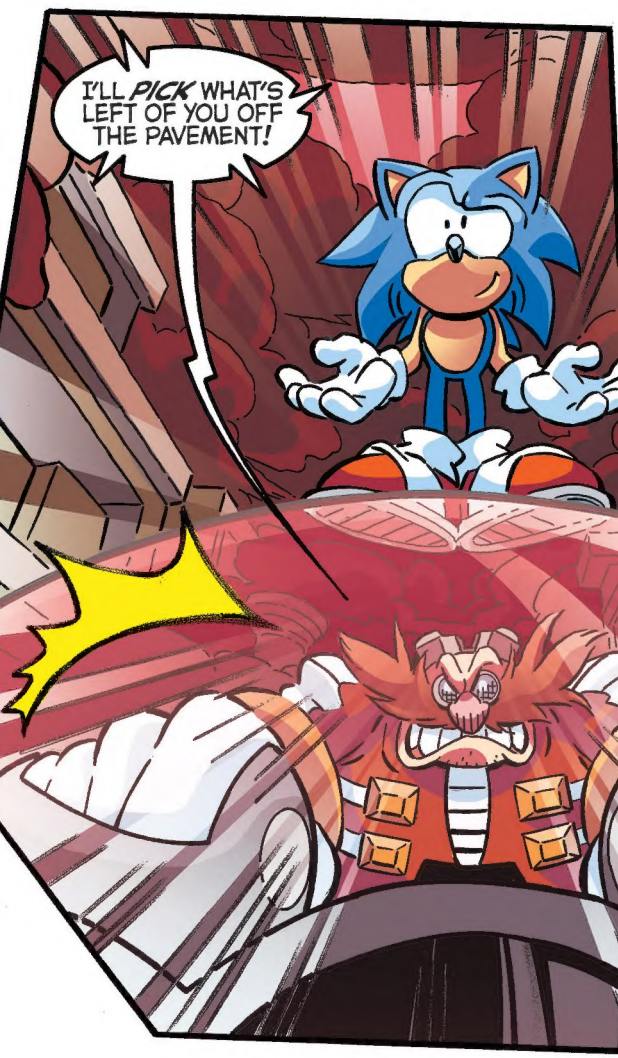
MY FRIENDS DON'T NEED TO BE UP HERE. I'M COUNTING ON THEM TO HANDLE THE REST OF THE PLAN.



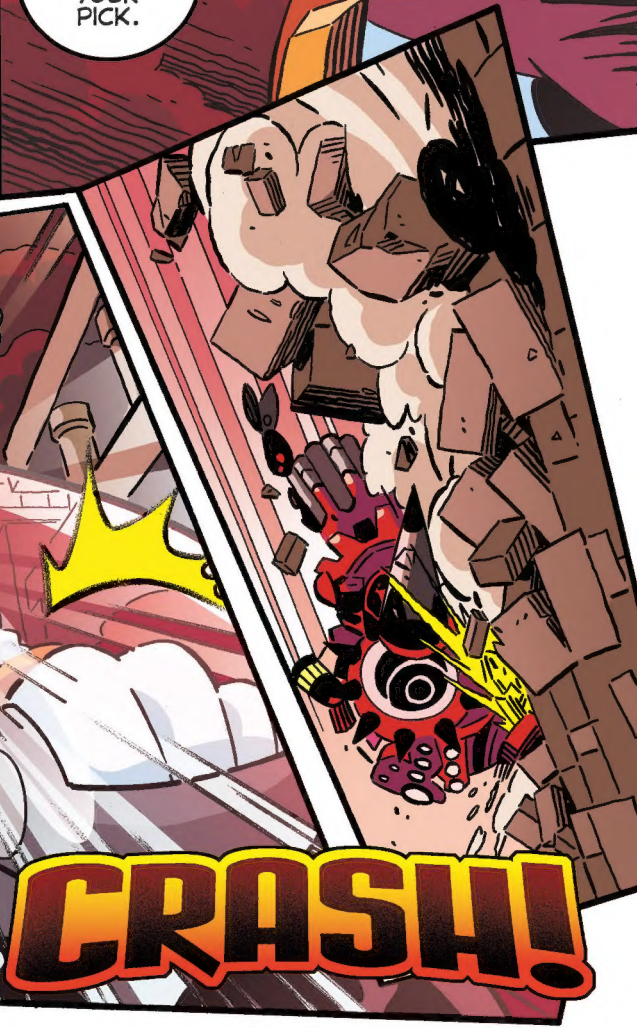
WHICH MEANS I'M FREE TO HANDLE YOU.

"HANDLE" ME?

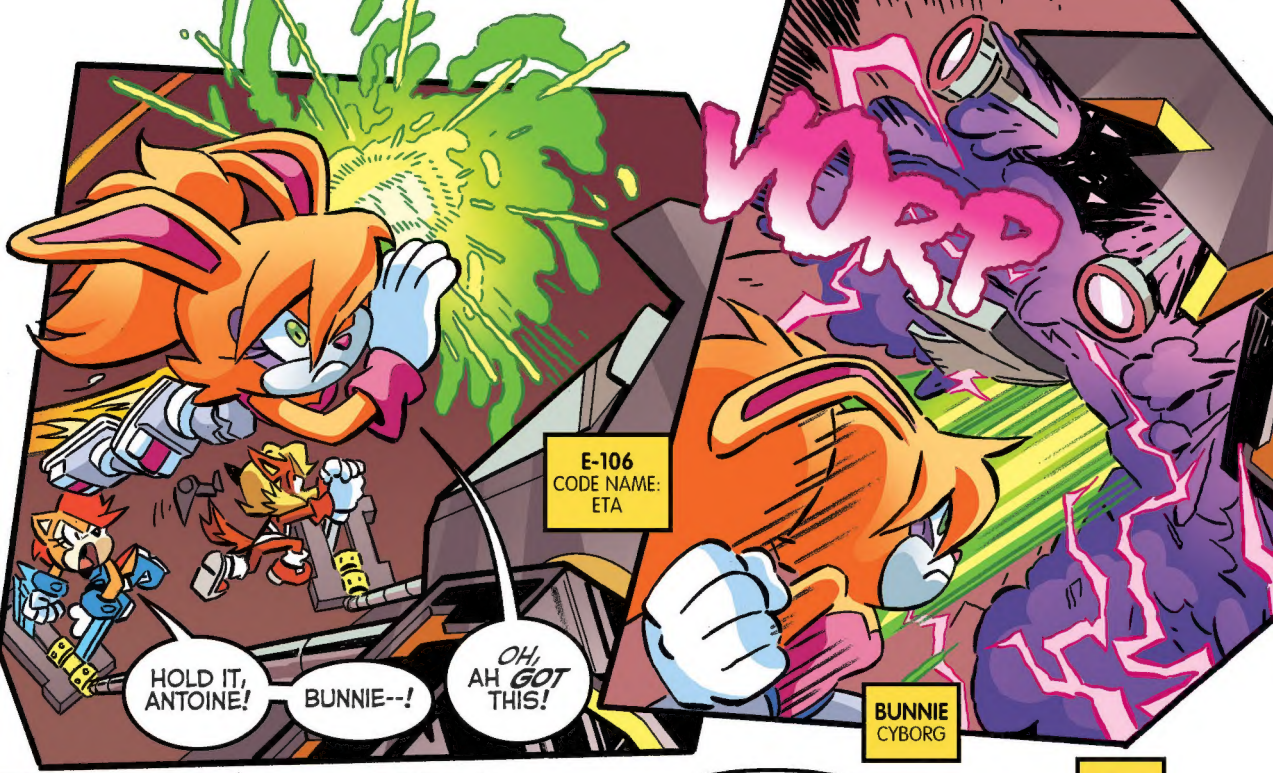
TOY WITH? MESS WITH? TAKE YOUR PICK.



I'LL PICK WHAT'S LEFT OF YOU OFF THE PAVEMENT!



CRASH!



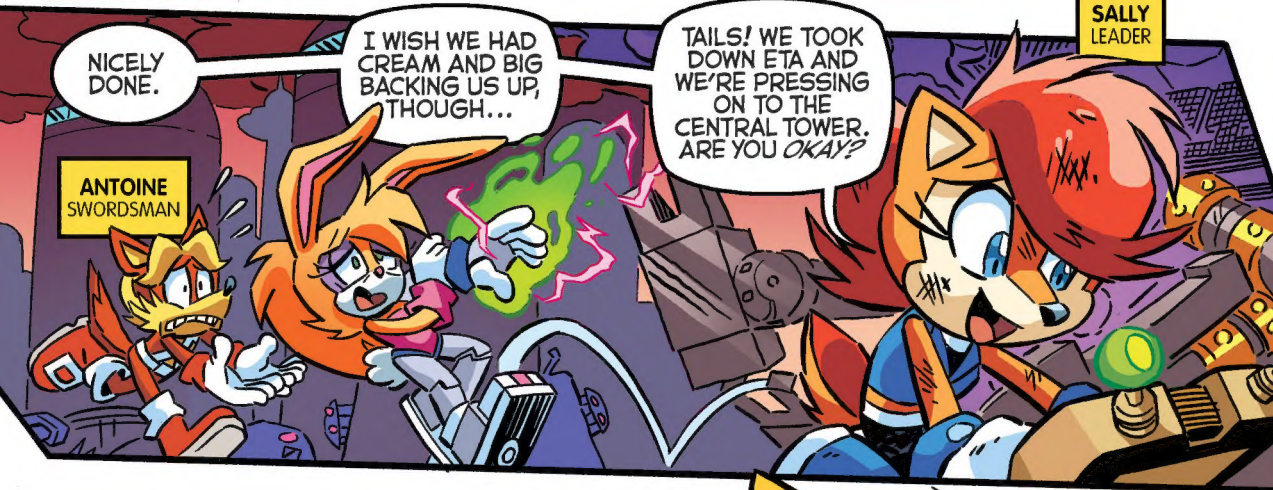
E-106
CODE NAME:
ETA

BUNNIE
CYBORG

HOLD IT,
ANTOINE!

BUNNIE--!

OH,
AH GOT
THIS!



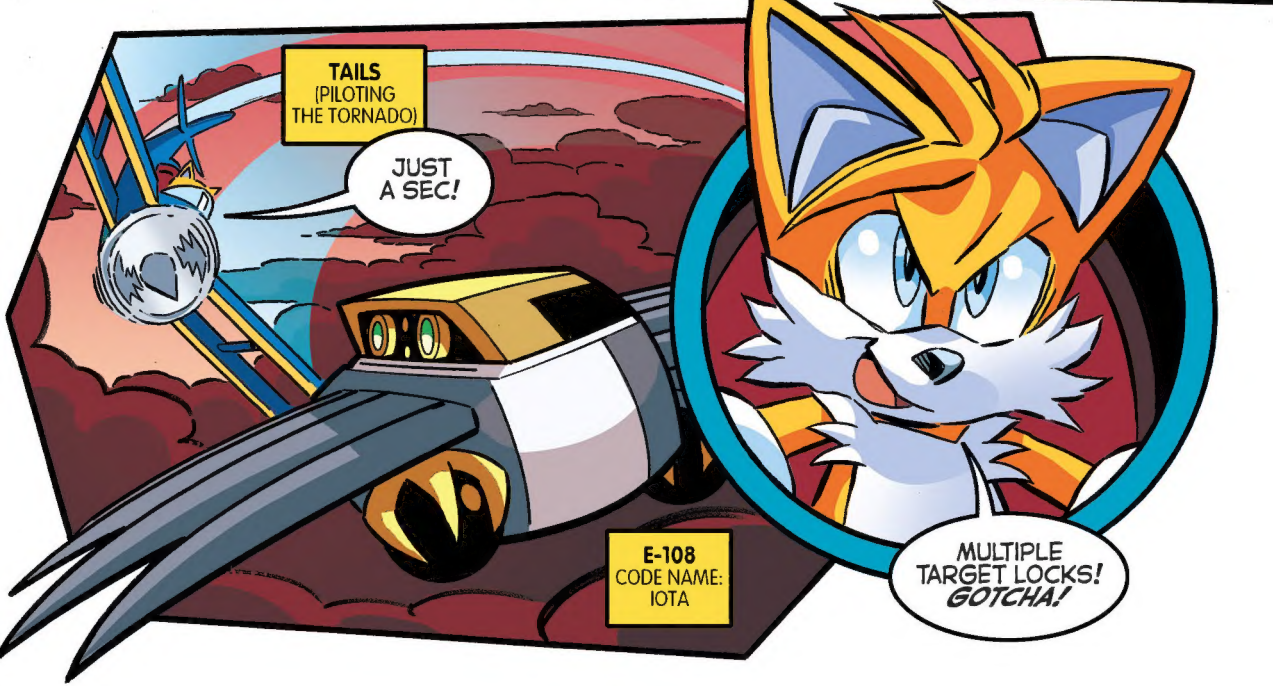
ANTOINE
SWORDSMAN

SALLY
LEADER

NICELY
DONE.

I WISH WE HAD
CREAM AND BIG
BACKING US UP,
THOUGH...

TAILS! WE TOOK
DOWN ETA AND
WE'RE PRESSING
ON TO THE
CENTRAL TOWER.
ARE YOU OKAY?



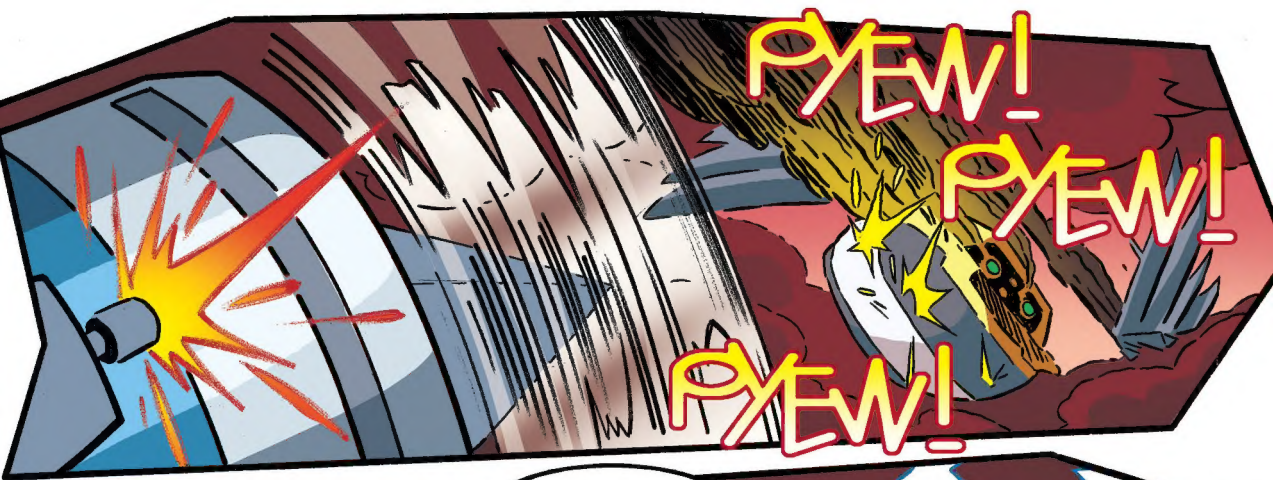
TAILS
(PILOTING
THE TORNADO)

E-108
CODE NAME:
IOTA

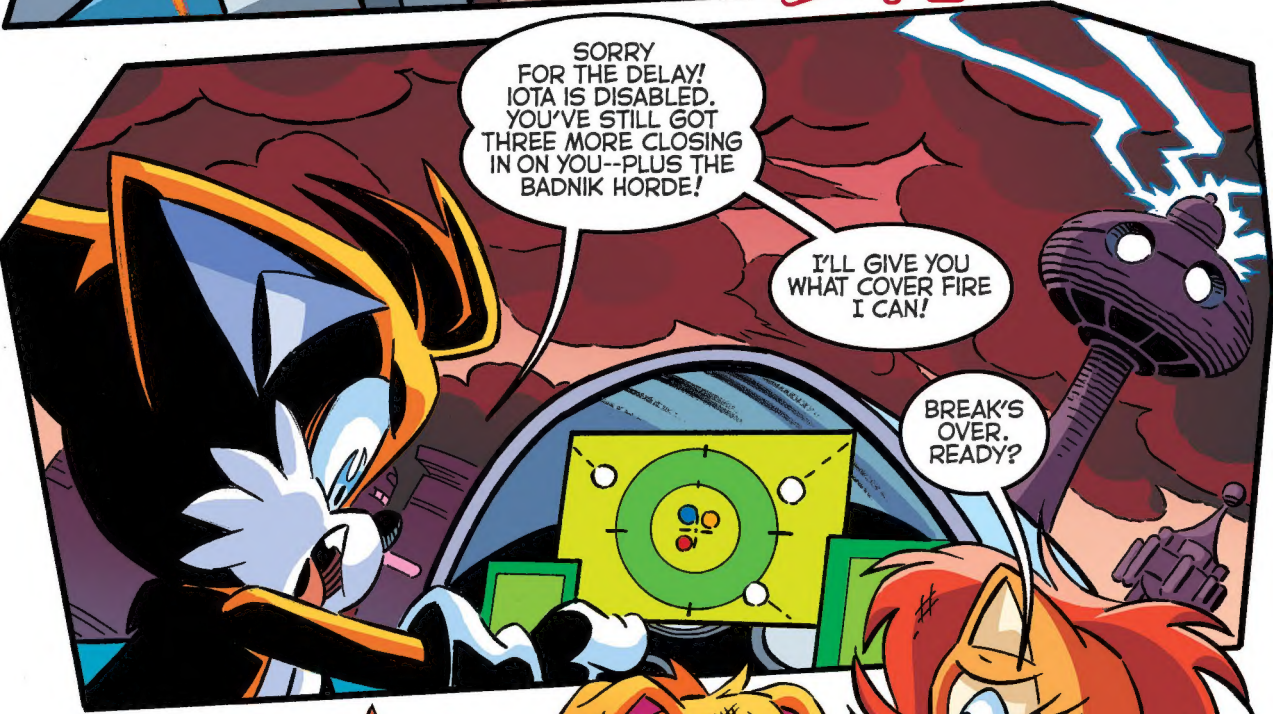
JUST
A SEC!



MULTIPLE
TARGET LOCKS!
GOTCHA!



PYEW!
PYEW!
PYEW!



SORRY FOR THE DELAY!
IOTA IS DISABLED.
YOU'VE STILL GOT
THREE MORE CLOSING
IN ON YOU--PLUS THE
BADNIK HORDE!

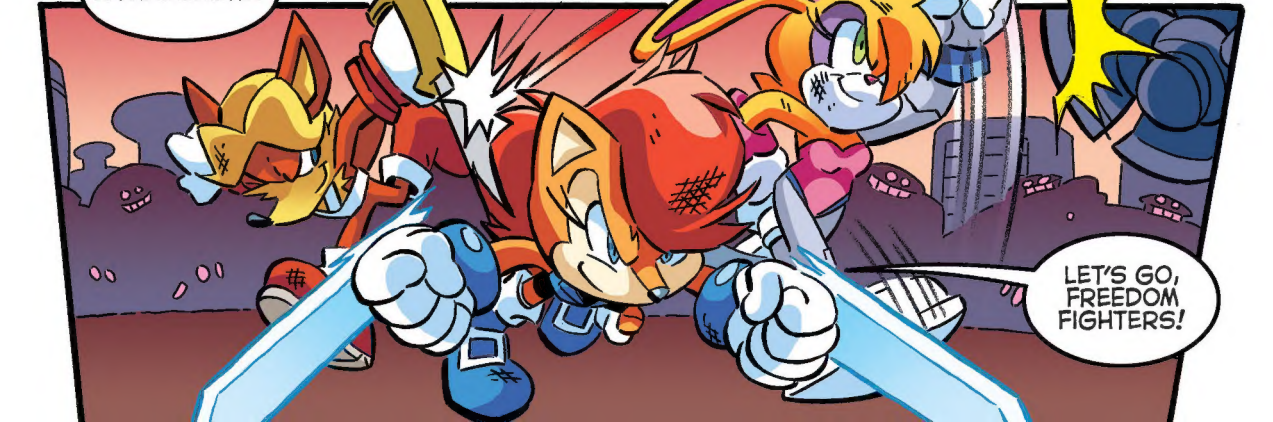
I'LL GIVE YOU
WHAT COVER FIRE
I CAN!

BREAK'S
OVER.
READY?



SHO'
NUFF.

CERTAINMENT.



LET'S GO,
FREEDOM
FIGHTERS!

THE SKY PATROL
THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS' BATTLE CARRIER

WE'RE STILL IN ONE PIECE?! I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SAYING THIS, BUT THANK YOU, EGGMAN TECH!*

NICOLE, HOW ARE WE DOING?

ROTOR MECHANIC

*SONIC THE HEDGEHOG VOLUME 1.

THE DEATH EGG
DR. EGGMAN'S FLYING FORTRESS

HA! GOOD TO KNOW. WE'LL HOLD OUT AS LONG AS WE CAN!

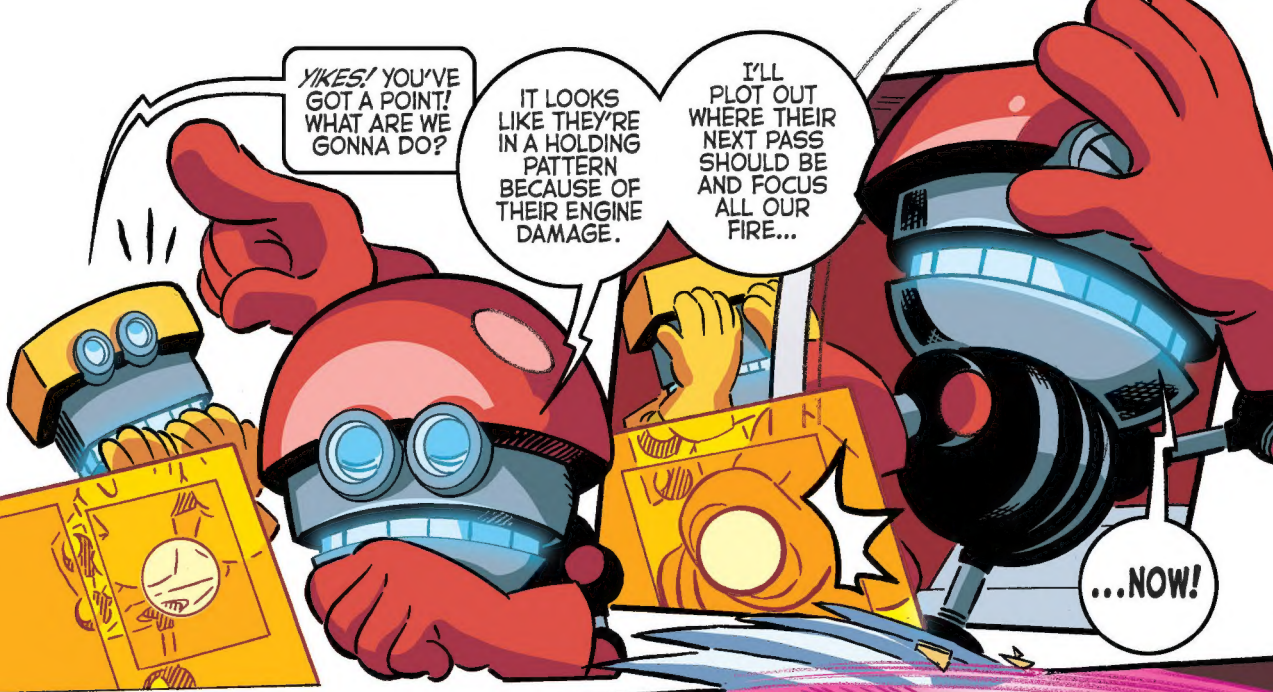
- WEAPONS POWER AT 10%
- PARTICLE BEAM CANNON, SONIC POWER CANNON, VOLKAN CANNON OFFLINE
- ANTI-AIR MISSILES DEPLETED
- OMOCHAO GUN JAMMED
- SHIELDS HOLDING
- ENGINE POWER AT 23%
- I'M FINE, BY THE WAY.

HA! OUR SHIELDS HAVE BARELY BEEN SCRATCHED!

YES, BUT THE BARRAGE AND ALL OUR WEAPONS FIRE IS DRAINING OUR RESERVES.

THE BOSS WILL BE ANGRY IF WE DON'T HAVE THE POWER TO REACH EGGMAN LAND.

ORBOT AND CUBOT
ROBO-LACKEYS



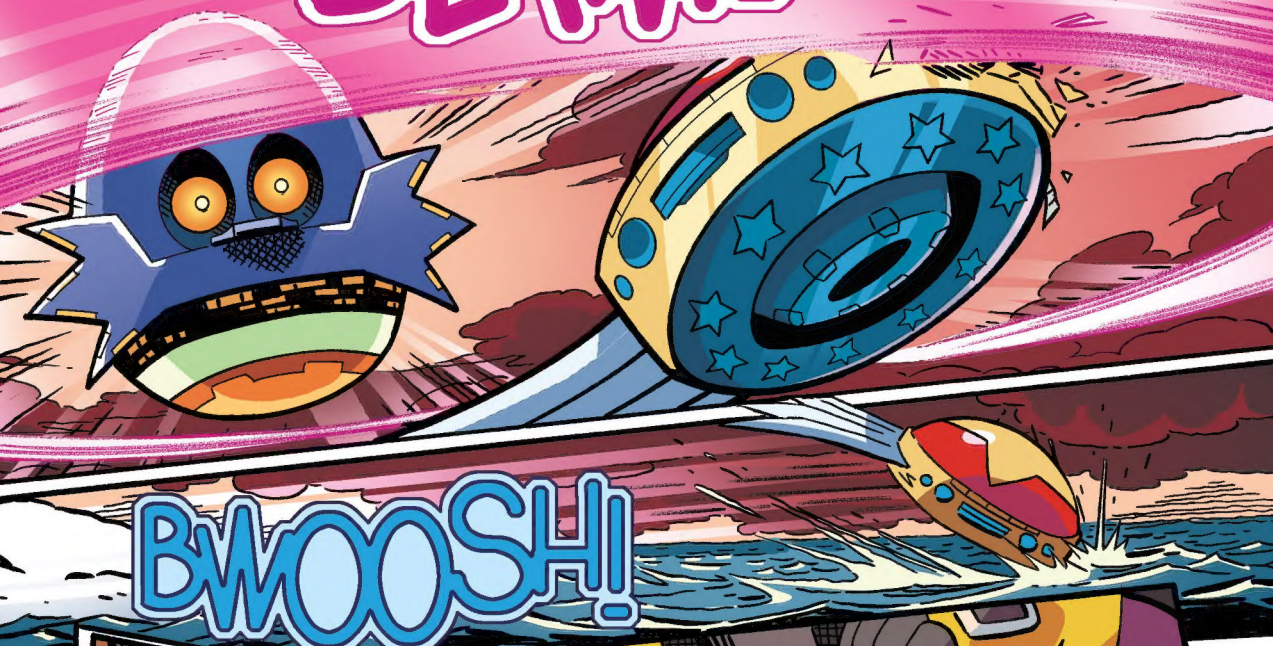
YIKES! YOU'VE GOT A POINT! WHAT ARE WE GONNA DO?

IT LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE IN A HOLDING PATTERN BECAUSE OF THEIR ENGINE DAMAGE.

I'LL PLOT OUT WHERE THEIR NEXT PASS SHOULD BE AND FOCUS ALL OUR FIRE...

...NOW!

BLAM!



BWOOSH!



ANY LANDING YOU CAN WALK AWAY FROM...

NICOLE... I HOPE YOU'RE OKAY WITH SERVERS ON RESERVE POWER...

INSIDE THE GAIA COLOSSUS...

tink!

NRRRRGH!
I HATE THIS!
SONIC NEEDS
MY HELP! THE
GAIA COLOSSUS
IS SUPPOSED
TO **SAVE** THE
WORLD...

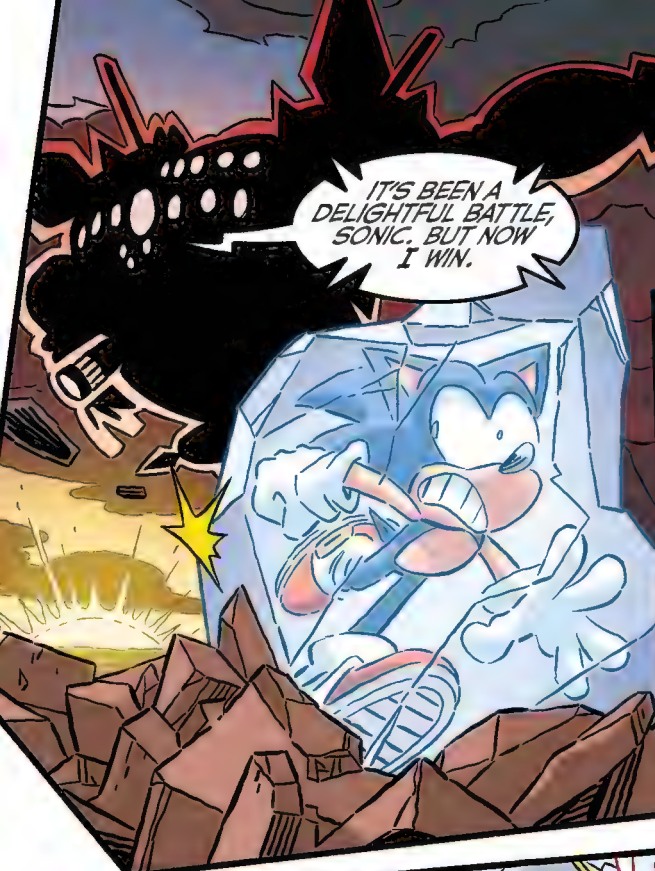
CHIP
THE LIGHT
GAIA

**...NOT
DESTROY
IT!**

OKAY...
OW.

EGGMAN KEEPS
CUTTING ME OFF SO I
CAN'T GET TO CHIP.
BUT I CAN'T HIT THAT MECH
HARD ENOUGH.
I NEED TO...

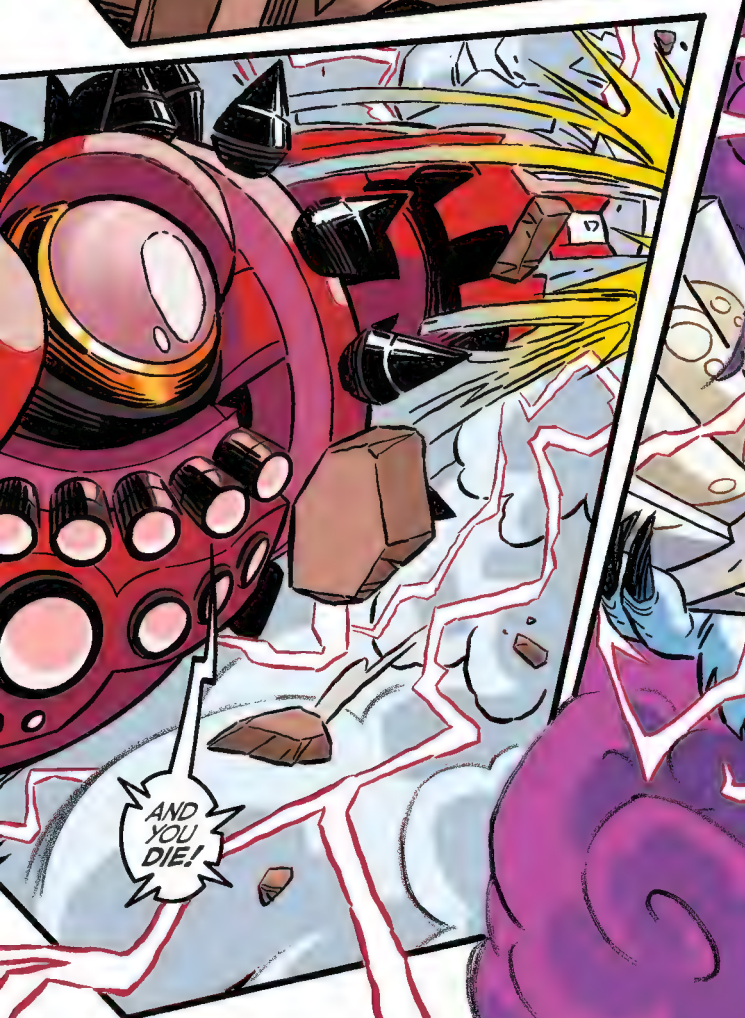
**HA
HAHA!
GOTCHA!**



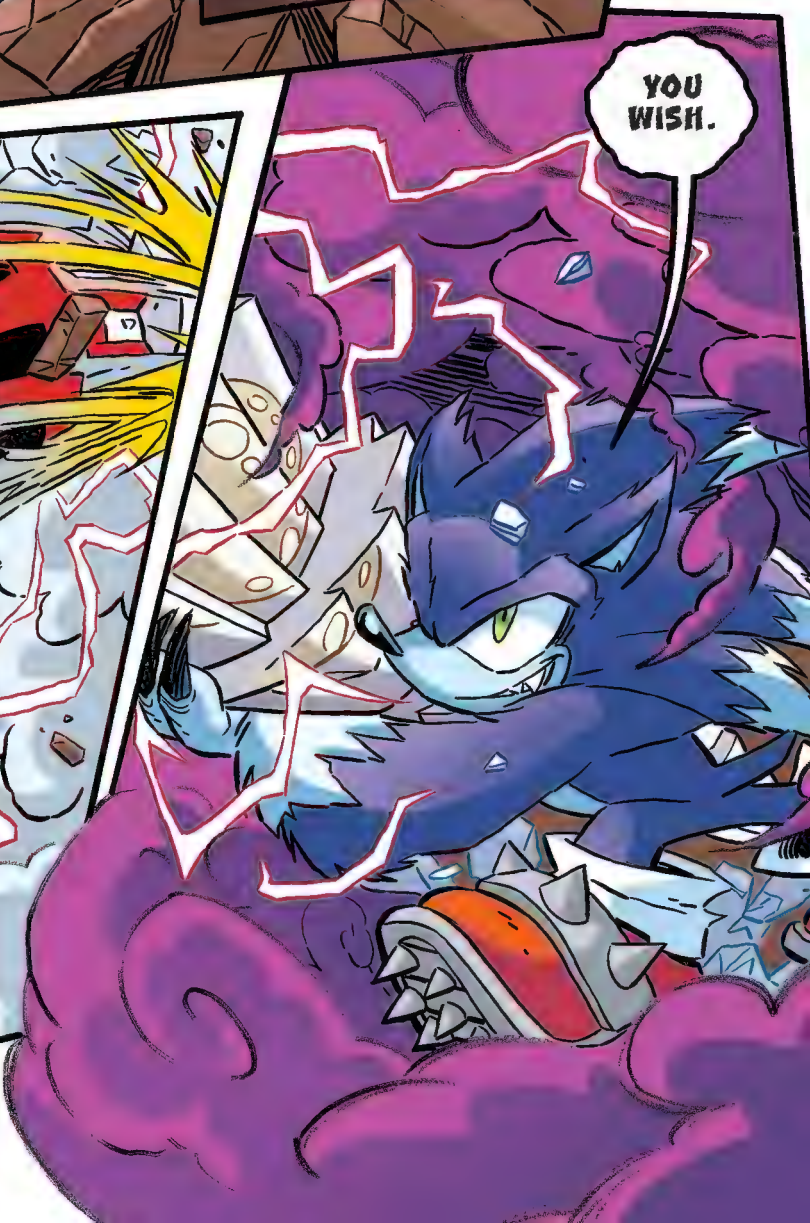
IT'S BEEN A DELIGHTFUL BATTLE, SONIC. BUT NOW I WIN.



I TAKE OVER THE WORLD.



AND YOU DIE!



YOU WISH.



WHOA-
WHOA-
WHOA!

STAY
AWAY!

BWOOSH!

SQUISH!
CRASH!



AUGH!

WHAM!

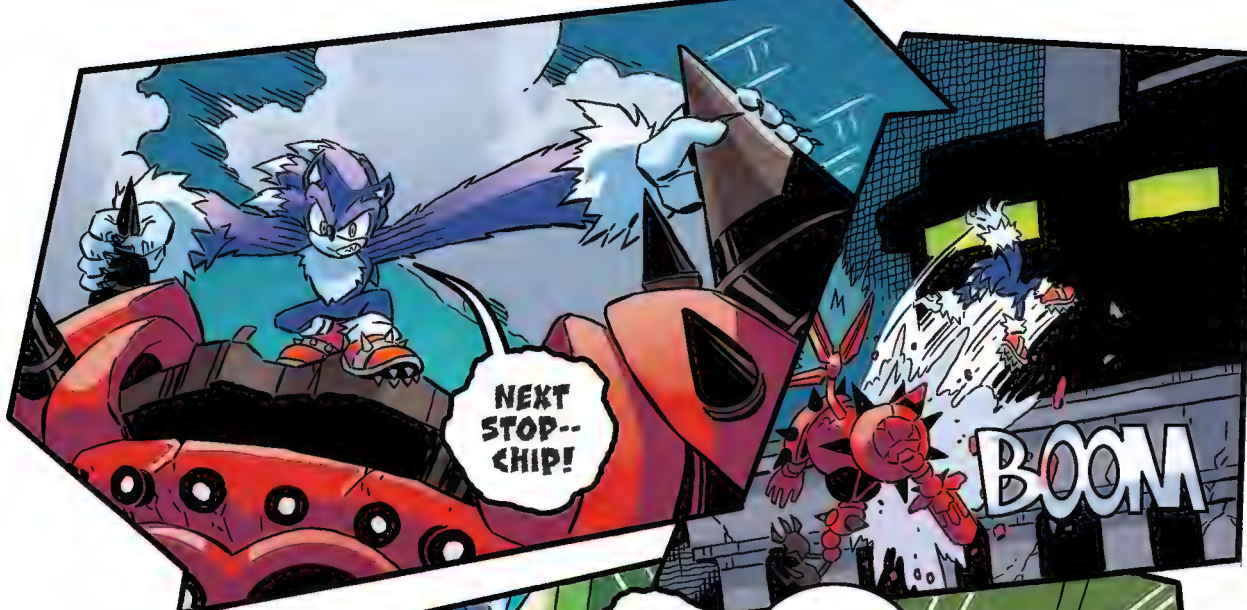


WHAM!

NONO NONONO NONONO!



NOOOOOO
OOOOOOOO
OOOOOOO...!



NEXT STOP--
CHIP!

BOOM



HEY,
BUDDY!
MISS
ME?

SONIC!
I WAS SO
WORRIED!

HAVEN'T
I TOLD YOU
ALREADY? THE
GOOD GUYS
ALWAYS
WIN!



YEAH--
WELL--
YOU SURE
MADE IT
INTENSE!

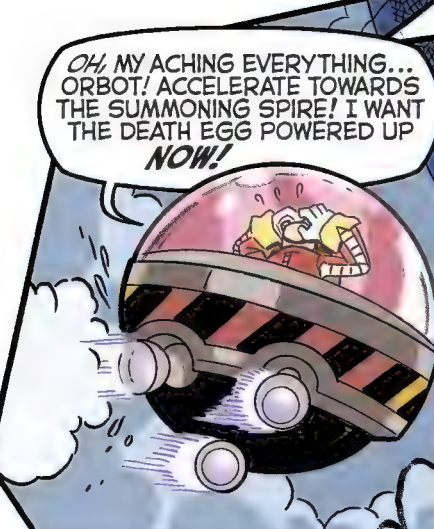


OH, JUST
YOU WAIT!
NOW THAT
WE'VE GOT
THE CHAOS
EMERALDS,
I CAN--



HRARRR
RRGH?!

SONIC?!
SONIC--
WHAT'S
WRONG?




OH, MY ACHING EVERYTHING...
ORBOT! ACCELERATE TOWARDS
THE SUMMONING SPIRE! I WANT
THE DEATH EGG POWERED UP
NOW!



I
WOULDN'T
RECOMMEND THAT,
BOSS. I'M GETTING
SOME WORRISOME
READINGS FROM
EGGMAN
LAND.

OH, NOW
WHAT?!



BLAST IT, SONIC!
I HAD EVERYTHING
PERFECTLY SET UP!
NOW YOU'VE
DOOMED US ALL!




SALLY? YOU
MIGHT WANT
TO HURRY THIS
UP, HON!

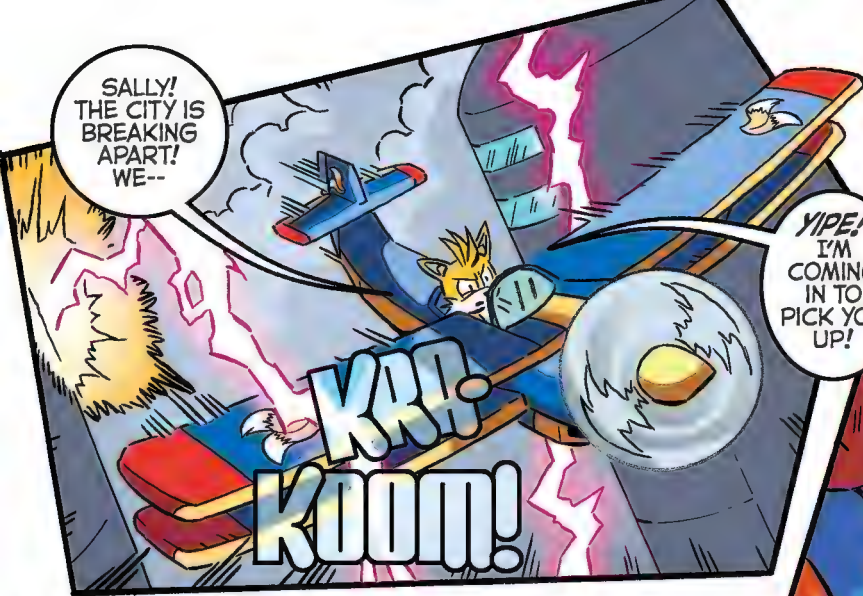
I'M
TRYING!
THE SYSTEM
IS BUGGING
OUT!



LOOK! ZE DARK
GAIA ENERGY IS
LEAVING ZE
BADNIKS!



AND IT DON'T
LOOK LIKE THEY'VE
GOT ANIMALS IN
'EM! THANK
GOODNESS!



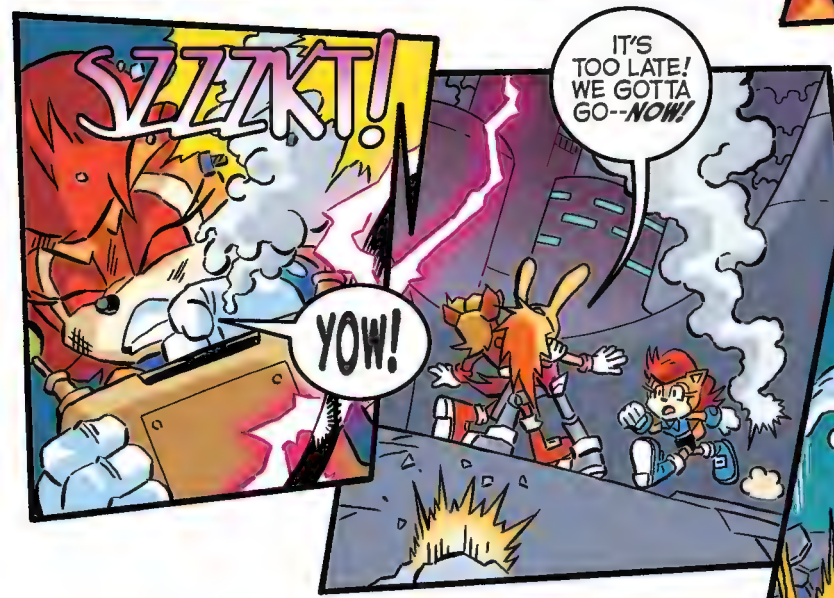
SALLY!
THE CITY IS
BREAKING
APART!
WE--

YIPE!
I'M
COMING
IN TO
PICK YOU
UP!

**KRA-
KOOM!**



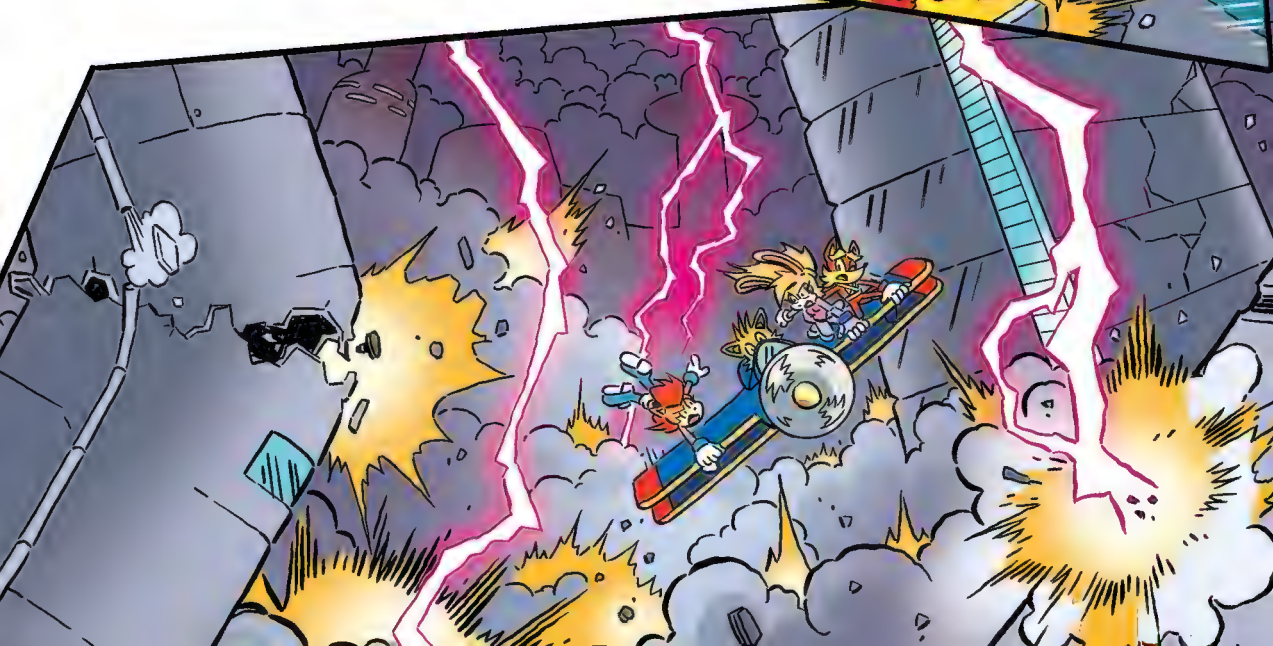
WE'RE NOT DONE
YET! WE'VE GOT TO
DISABLE THIS
SPIRE BEFORE--!



IT'S
TOO LATE!
WE GOTTA
GO--NOW!

YOW!

SZZZKT!



**KRA-
KOOM!**



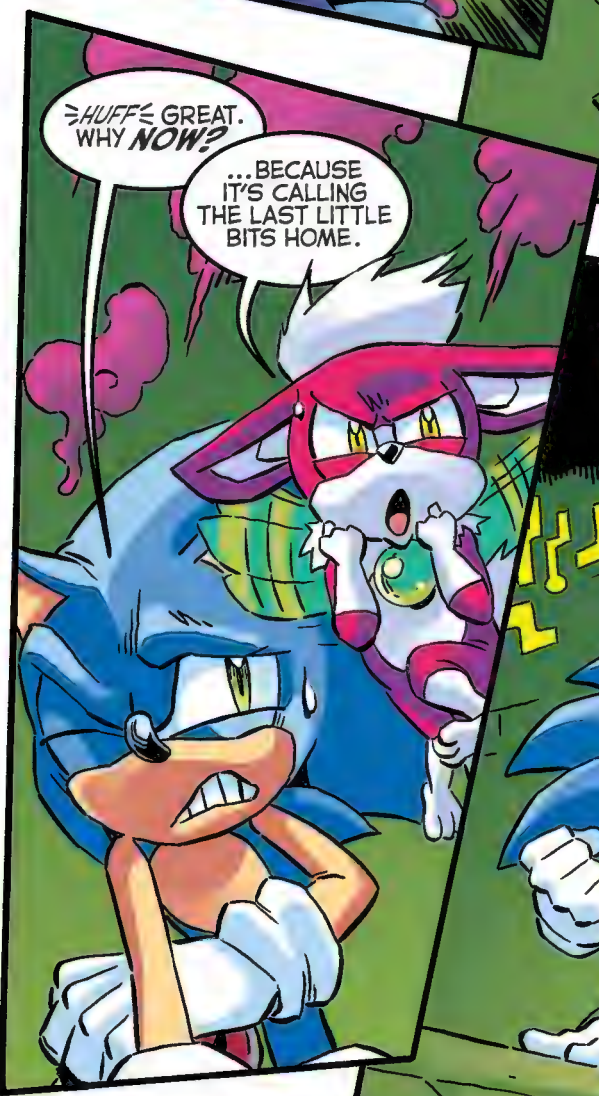
RRR
RAAA
AAAA
AUGH
H-H-H!

EASY THERE,
SONIC. I-I
UNDERSTAND
WHAT'S HAPPENING
NOW. THE DARK GAIA
ESSENCE IS LEAVING
YOU. Y-YOU'LL BE
OKAY.

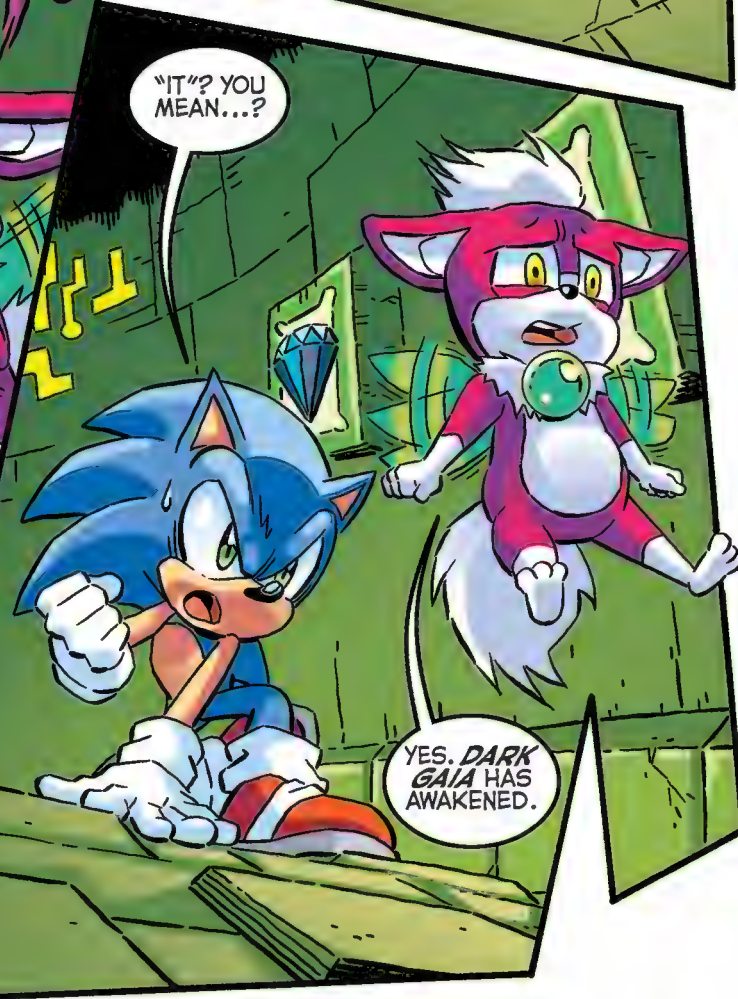


≡HUFF≡ GREAT.
WHY NOW?

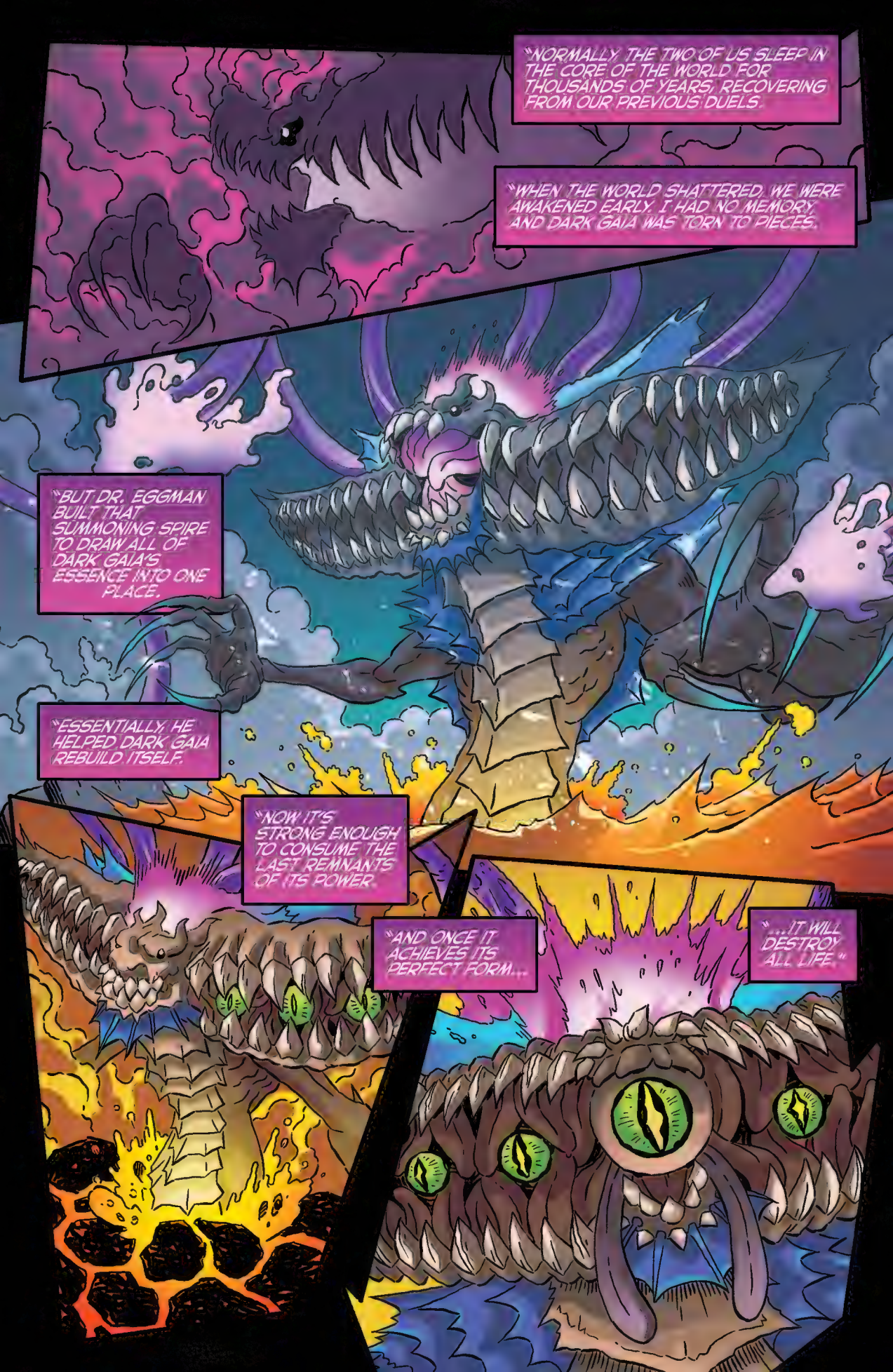
...BECAUSE
IT'S CALLING
THE LAST LITTLE
BITS HOME.



"IT"? YOU
MEAN...?



YES. DARK
GAIA HAS
AWAKENED.



"NORMALLY, THE TWO OF US SLEEP IN THE CORE OF THE WORLD FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS, RECOVERING FROM OUR PREVIOUS DUELS."

"WHEN THE WORLD SHATTERED, WE WERE AWAKENED EARLY. I HAD NO MEMORY, AND DARK GAIA WAS TORN TO PIECES."

"BUT DR. EGGMAN BUILT THAT SUMMONING SPIRE TO DRAW ALL OF DARK GAIA'S ESSENCE INTO ONE PLACE."

"ESSENTIALLY, HE HELPED DARK GAIA REBUILD ITSELF."

"NOW IT'S STRONG ENOUGH TO CONSUME THE LAST REMNANTS OF ITS POWER."

"AND ONCE IT ACHIEVES ITS PERFECT FORM..."

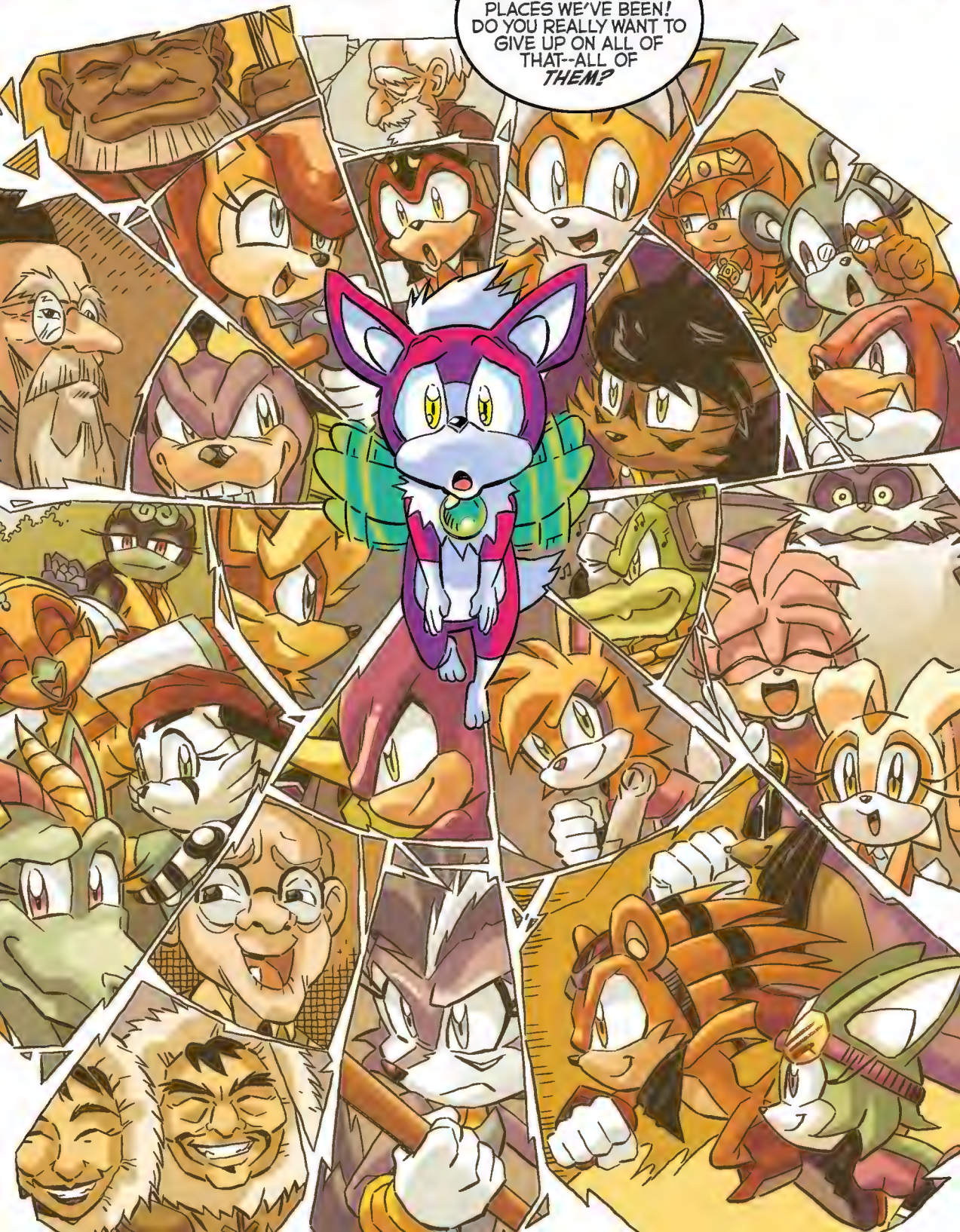
"...IT WILL DESTROY ALL LIFE."

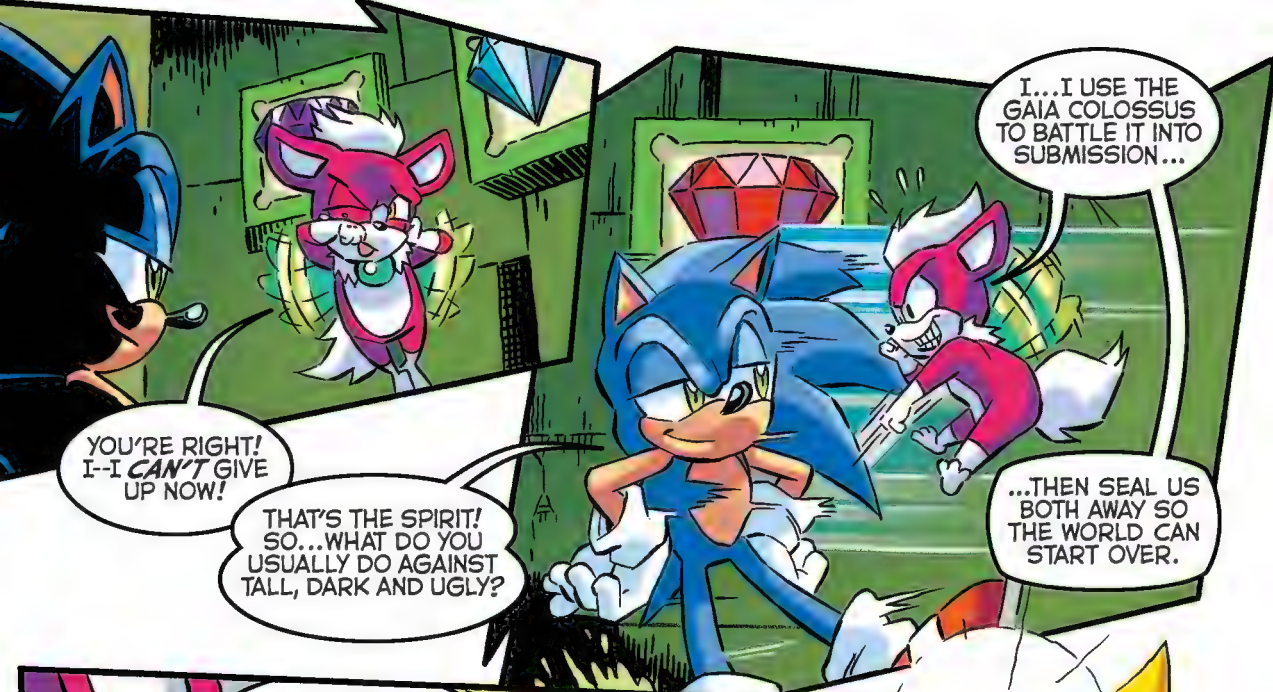


IT'S OVER. I'VE FAILED.

WHAT KIND OF TALK IS THAT? WE'RE STILL STANDING. IT AIN'T OVER YET!

JUST THINK OF ALL THE PEOPLE WE'VE MET! ALL THE PLACES WE'VE BEEN! DO YOU REALLY WANT TO GIVE UP ON ALL OF THAT--ALL OF *THEM?*





I... I USE THE GAIA COLOSSUS TO BATTLE IT INTO SUBMISSION...

YOU'RE RIGHT!
I-I CAN'T GIVE UP NOW!

THAT'S THE SPIRIT!
SO... WHAT DO YOU USUALLY DO AGAINST TALL, DARK AND UGLY?

... THEN SEAL US BOTH AWAY SO THE WORLD CAN START OVER.



BUT IT CAN TAKE CENTURIES! THAT ISN'T FAST ENOUGH TO SAVE EVERYONE!

HEH--
"FAST"? I GOTCHA COVERED.



SCHWANN!



C'MON,
CHIP! LET'S
SAVE THE
WORLD!

This is IT! The Final Battle between LIGHT and DARK!
Super Sonic and Chip's GAIA COLOSSUS vs. PERFECT DARK GAIA!
The "SHATTERED WORLD SAGA" ends next time in Sonic the Hedgehog!
DON'T MISS OUT ON MORE ACTION IN *SONIC UNIVERSE*, *SONIC SUPER DIGEST* AND THE *GRAPHIC NOVEL LIBRARY!*

Letter from the EDITOR

Editorial commentary that delivers hype right to your door! (only 3 easy payments of 995 gold rings plus shipping and handling)



Photo by Evan Stanley

If you ever wondered how those ice cream pops were made...

Skelly and Adam Bryce Thomas for their great work on "Panic in the Sky" part 3! And be sure to check out more of Adam's pencil work in current issues of *Sonic Universe*. Enjoy a little preview from "Shattered" part 4 in SU #90 below!



[insert evil laughter here]

I see it, I see it, and now it's all within my reach!

The end is near! Dark Gaia has reached its perfect form and now it's up to Sonic and Chip to put it back in its place!

Until then, let's give some major props to Diana

That's all for this column, see y'all next time for the big finale! Chao!

Vin
2016

- Vincent "Vin" Lovallo
Editor



Both Diana and Adam got to draw epic Sonic transformations this issue! **WINS ALL AROUND!**



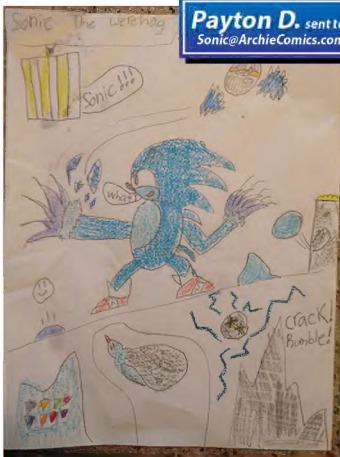
SONICTM
THE HEDGEHOG

SONIC GRAMS

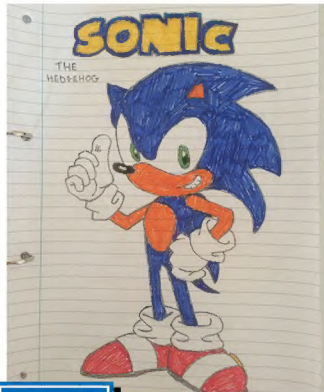
FAN ART



Salva P. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com



Payton D. sent to
Sonic@ArchieComics.com



Tom M.
from UK

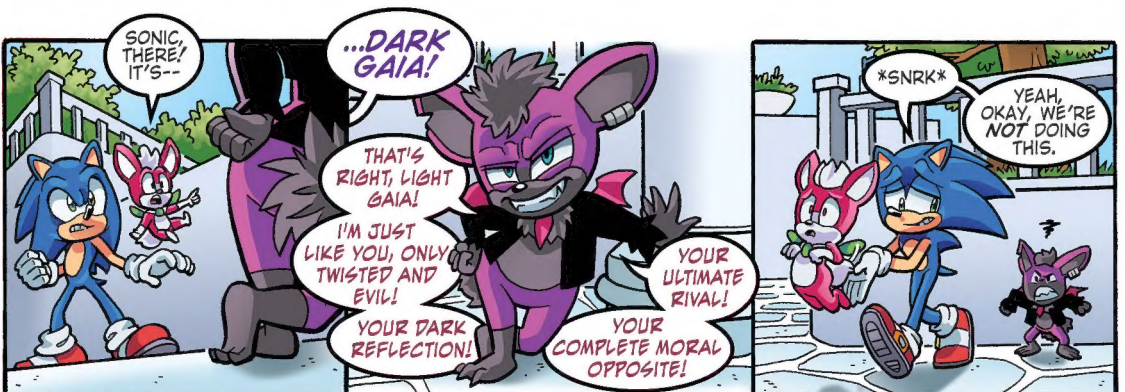


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OFF PANEL

I found you, faker! **OR** PREPARE FOR TROUBLE: IT'S CHIP'S EVIL DOUBLE!



SCRIPT: ALEAH BAKER PENCILS: EVAN STANLEY INKS: GARY MARTIN COLORS: ELAINA UNGER

NEXT ISSUE: SONIC THE HEDGEHOG 287



PANIC
IN THE **SKY**

-PART FOUR-